

GENERAL PERMIT FOR BRIDGE SCOUR REPAIR ACTIVITIES

Bridge scour repair activities are hereby permitted provided the activity is done in accordance with the terms and conditions below.

Exclusions

This general permit cannot be used to authorize work in the following circumstances:

- (a) where wetlands will be adversely affected by the proposed work;
- (b) when the activity is located in any waterway which is identified by the Department as having contaminated sediments, and where the proposed work will likely mobilize the contaminants;
- (c) where a portion of the proposed activity is located in a component of the National Wild and Scenic River System, a State Scenic River, or waters designated as Outstanding National Resource Waters;
- (d) when the project will adversely affect a species formally listed on State or Federal lists of threatened or endangered species; or
- (e) when an individual permit is required.

Bridge scour repair projects not qualifying for authorization by this general permit may be authorized by individual permit provided all requirements of the *Tennessee Water Quality Control Act of 1977* are met.

Notification

Persons proposing to conduct bridge scour repair activities in waters of the State shall notify the Division by submission of an application which includes the following minimum information:

- (a) a cover letter explaining the scope of the project;
- (b) an U.S.G.S. topographic map showing the exact location of the proposed construction site; and
- (c) a single copy of construction plans which include specifications for stream channel alterations and detailed pollution control methods or structures

Scour repair activities shall not commence until the Division issues written notification that the proposal may proceed in accordance with the terms of this general permit or issues an individual permit.

General Terms and Conditions

- 1) Temporary erosion control measures must be in place before any construction operations begin, maintained throughout the construction period and repaired, as necessary, until all erodible soil at the site is stabilized. Effective erosion control must be installed along the base of all fills and cuts, on the downhill side of stockpiled soil, and along stream banks in cleared areas to prevent erosion into streams.
- 2) Placement of material for scour protection or repair shall be limited to 50 linear feet either side of the outside edge of the bridge. Material shall be limited to clean rock, riprap, rock-filled wire baskets or mattresses, or concrete contained by formwork for footing repair. Stabilization materials shall not include gravel, sand, sediments, chert, soil, or other unconsolidated materials. Materials to be discharged shall be free of pollutants, contaminants, toxic materials, hazardous substances, waste metal, construction debris and trash, and other wastes as defined by T.C.A. 69-3-103(18).
- 3) Scour protection shall be designed and installed to prevent impairment of flow.
- 4) Scour protection shall not disrupt the movement of fish and aquatic life.
- 5) Bank shaping shall be limited to that necessary for placement of scour repair materials.
- 6) Where practicable, excavation activities shall be accomplished in the dry. All surface water flowing towards the excavation shall be diverted through utilization of cofferdams and/or berms. Cofferdams and berms must be constructed of sandbags, clean rock, steel sheeting, or other non-erodible material. Clean rock is rock of various type and size, depending upon application, that contains no fines, soils, or other wastes or contaminants.

- 7) No excavated material may be placed in the existing stream channels. Excavated material must be removed to a location that will prevent its reentry into waters of the State.
- 8) Water from work areas and excavations must be held in settling basins or treated by filtration prior to its discharge into surface waters. Water must be held in settling basins until at least as clear as the waters upstream of the construction site. Settling basins shall not be located closer than 20 feet from the water line. Settling basins and traps shall be properly designed according to the size of the drainage areas or volume of water to be treated.
- 9) Clearing, grubbing and other disturbance to riparian vegetation shall be limited to the minimum necessary for placement of the scour protection materials. Unnecessary vegetation removal is prohibited. All disturbed areas shall be ripped, sodded, or seeded and mulched within 30 days of disturbance. Seeding shall include a combination of annual grains and grasses, legumes, and perennial grasses. Lime and fertilizer shall be applied as needed to achieve a vegetative cover.
- 10) Streams shall not be used as transportation routes for heavy equipment. Crossings shall be limited to one point and erosion control measures must be utilized where stream banks are disturbed. Crossings shall be constructed of clean rock and shall be sufficiently designed to convey flow without any impairment. Clean rock is rock of various type and size, depending upon application, that contains no fines, soils, or other wastes or contaminants.
- 11) Construction debris shall be kept from entering the stream channel and shall be disposed of in a manner that shall not impact any waters of the State.
- 12) Appropriate steps shall be taken to ensure that petroleum products or other chemical pollutants are prevented from entering waters of the state. All spills must be reported to the appropriate emergency management agency, and measures shall be taken immediately to prevent the pollution of waters of the state, including groundwater.
- 13) Adverse impact to formally listed state or federal threatened or endangered species or their critical habitat, or to cultural, historical, or archeological features or sites is prohibited.

Effective Date July 1, 2000

Expiration Date June 30, 2005

APPROVED: _____

Paul Davis, Director